# City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County

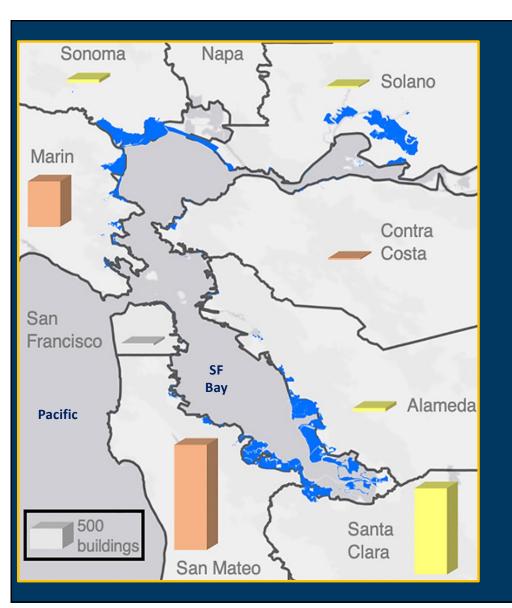
**Board Meeting** 

San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District

Len Materman, CEO

November 18, 2021





### San Mateo County: Ground Zero for Sea Level Rise Vulnerability

Most vulnerable CA county to 3 feet of sea level rise in terms of:

- population, including underrepresented population
- property value
- number of homes
- number of contaminated sites

One of six counties in U.S. and only one on West Coast with over 100,000 people living in an area impacted by 3 feet of SLR.

Key community assets in the county vulnerable to sea level rise: schools, hospitals, beaches, highways, water treatment plants, power plants, wetlands, and major corporations.

This county's 11 cities along the Bay and 3 along the Pacific were not well-positioned to address this regional challenge



A long-standing County Flood Control District collected taxes and worked in 10% of the county and Bay shoreline and along none of the Pacific coastline

Through State legislation (AB 825 in 2019), the District, known as OneShoreline, was established January 1, 2020 as the first countywide independent government agency in California focused on the water-related impacts of climate change. Start-up operating funds were provided by the County and all 20 cities within it.

OneShoreline builds resilience to climate change impacts by taking a holistic approach to:

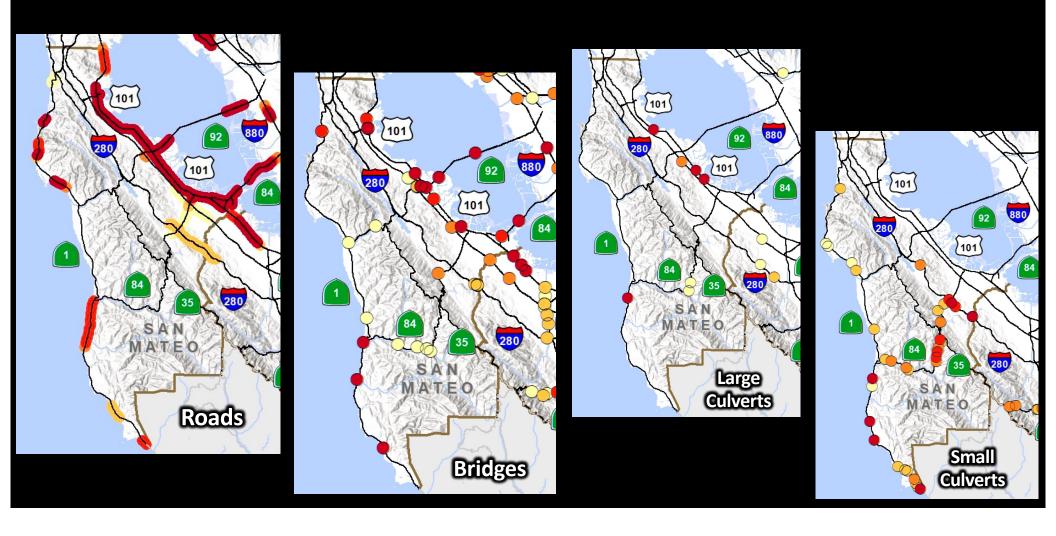
- GEOGRAPHY align and connect protection for neighboring jurisdictions
- THREATS more extreme storms and substantial sea level rise
- OBJECTIVES reduce threats; turn waterways & shorelines from liabilities into assets integrated into communities; utilize green infrastructure and public and private lands



OneShoreline's Annex of Mitigation Actions includes partnerships with the County, other special districts, and 19 cities



#### **Caltrans District 4 Adaptation Priorities Report - Dec. 2020**



#### **OneShoreline 2021-23 priorities include:**

- Complete our first construction project a long-planned effort to protect 5 mobile home parks and others from frequent flooding from the Bayfront Canal and Atherton Channel
- Advance new multi-jurisdictional projects that connect and align substantial protection for neighboring jurisdictions, and projects in 3 long-standing flood zones
- Develop a source of long-term, stable funding for climate resilience work
- Work with cities and developers so public and private infrastructure and development can function for decades, during which time the impacts of climate change, including sea level rise, will grow substantially



In early 2020, OneShoreline inherited the designs and CEQA document of the Bayfront Canal and Atherton Channel project to protect mobile homes and businesses in Redwood City, Menlo Park, and unincorporated County.

Over the next 15 months, OneShoreline completed a funding agreement, land rights, and environmental permits.



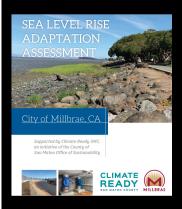




### Construction will be completed in January 2022.







Sea Change Burlingame Proposed Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategies Update to City Council







#### **Project Partners will:**

- establish common objectives & assumptions
- share technical information
- share environmental mitigations
- share costs
- utilize public & private lands to meet objectives

### Planning and zoning along San Francisco Bay to build resilience to future conditions brought by climate change

- New infrastructure and development in areas impacted by SLR are expected to function for decades, during which time the impacts of climate change and SLR will grow substantially.
- Planning now for protection is easier and cheaper than retrofitting for it later.
- Thus, these projects should be designed to function under foreseeable future conditions.
- Since July 2021, OneShoreline has been working with the City of Burlingame to make it the first city in the Bay Area to incorporate into its zoning ordinance requirements to achieve SLR resilience. Other cities have expressed interest in adding this to their key planning documents.



Burlingame's new zoning ordinance to incorporate sea level rise includes the following primary elements:

- Commercial and industrial development in areas impacted by SLR must be set back from the shoreline or creek to accommodate protection infrastructure, including nature-based protection and public trails.
- Development incorporates protection and trail infrastructure consistent with the project of OneShoreline and cities; the top of this infrastructure protects against a Bay water level 6 feet above today's FEMA 100-year elevation, which is about 10 ft above today's high tide.
- Variances can be made as long as the protection, and overall ecosystem and recreational objectives, can be met.
- The first floor of new buildings must be 3 feet above current FEMA base flood elevation.

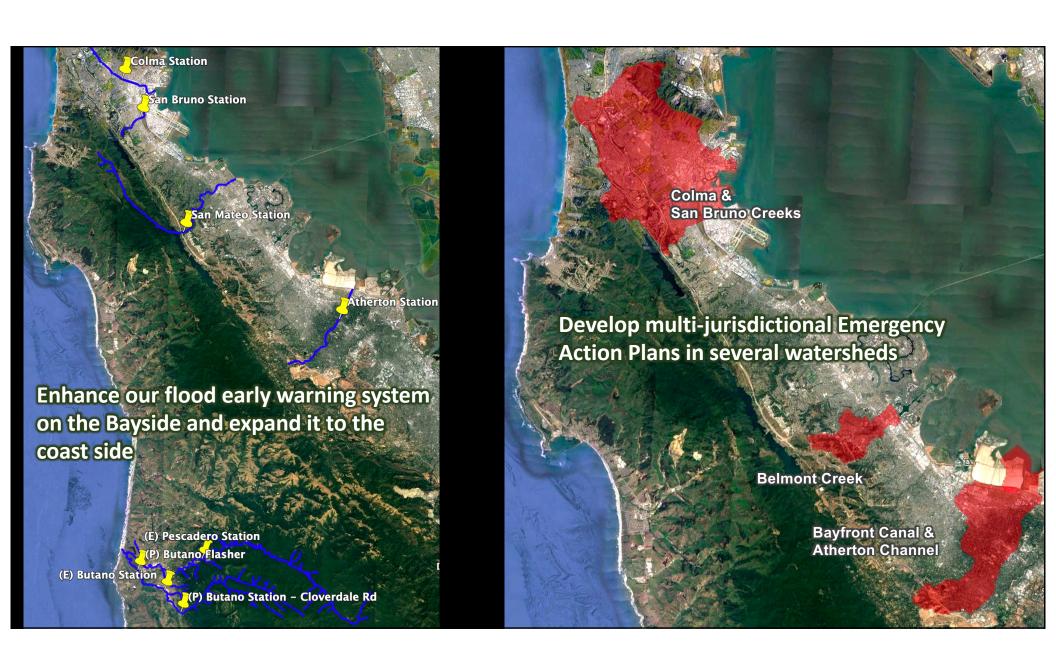


#### **Engagement on Regional Stormwater Issues**

#### **OneShoreline:**

- Secured \$5.9M in State funding for the construction of Belmont's new Twin Pines Park stormwater detention basin (planning and design funded by a State grant to C/CAG)
- Provided land easements to SSF for its Orange Memorial Park (OMP) Project
- Is discussing OMP O&M funding and incentives for future regional stormwater projects
- Is studying the area of San Bruno near 7<sup>th</sup> Ave and Walnut Street where flooding occurs when the City's stormwater system cannot drain when water levels are high in San Bruno Creek and the Bay (involves the City, Caltrans, County, SFO)
- Is supporting Millbrae's effort to address frequent flooding in the Landing Lane area (involves SFO, and potentially Caltrain and the City of San Bruno)





## Thank you

